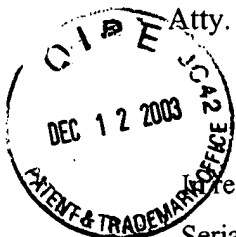


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41  
Atty. Docket No.: 1017.028 US



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Application of: Marc Dubois, et al.  
Serial No. 09/996,098  
Filing Date: November 26, 2001  
Examiner: Bhat, Aditya S.  
Group Art Unit: 2863  
Title: METHOD TO CHARACTERIZE MATERIAL USING MATHEMATICAL  
PROPAGATION MODELS AND ULTRASONIC SIGNAL

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Certification Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

Date of Mailing: December 9, 2003

I hereby certify that I have caused the documents indicated herein to be deposited with the United States Postal Service via First Class Mail to Addressee under 37 CFR § 1.8 and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 and mailed on the above Date of Mailing.

Rebecca J. Morrison

**SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(1)**

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, that the art listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement. A copy of the art is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Citation of the documents shall not be construed as:

- 1) an admission that the documents are necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention;
- 2) a representation that a search has been made, other than as described above; or
- 3) an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

Atty. Docket No.: 1017.028 US

While Applicants believe no fees are due, if any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2240 of Koestner Bertani, LLP.

Should the Examiner have any questions or desire further clarification, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below. Please reference Attorney Docket No. 1017.P028US.

Respectfully submitted,

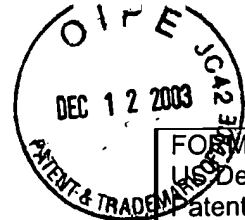
By: 

Robert A. McLauchlan  
Reg. No. 44,924

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Dated: December 9, 2003

Koestner Bertani, LLP  
4201 W. Parmer Lane  
Suite A-100  
Austin, Texas 78727  
(512) 399-4100  
(512) 692-2529 (Fax)



<b>FORM PTO-1449</b> U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use Several Sheets if Necessary)	<b>Docket Number</b> 1017.P028US	<b>Serial Number</b> 09/996,098
	<b>Filing Date</b> November 26, 2001	<b>Group Art Unit</b> 2863

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	X	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	4,095,475	6-20-78	Buckley	73	628	4-22-76
	A2	5,408,882	4-25-95	McKinley, et al.	73	597	7-21-93
	A3	5,679,899	10-21-97	Webster, et al.	73	656	3-6-95
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	A6	5,982,482	11-9-99	Nelson, et al.	356	237.1	7-31-97
	A7	6,092,419	7-25-00	Dixon, et al.	73	602	11-27-97
	A8	US2002/0171846A1	11-21-02	Drake	356	503	5-9-02
	A9						
	A10						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	B1	91119287.0	11-12-91	Europe	G01N	29/04		X
	B2							X
	B3							X
	B4							X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
C1	International Search Report, European Patent Office, 9-29-03, 7 pages.	
C2		
C3		
C4		
C6		
C6		
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED

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